

VIET NAM

L.T. Buick, Fisher. Wed. Nov. 24-65.

Official confirmation today in Saigon - of the inevitable bad news, ~~In~~ the wake of that bloody battle of Chu Pong Mountain -- in the Central Highlands of Viet Nam.

Two hundred and forty American servicemen - killed in action last week - as you may have heard by now. The highest death toll to date - for any week of the war. Higher for the first time - than the weekly average of the Korean War.

Only one consolation -- they took with them about ten Communists -- for every man lost.

Ironically, a footnote to the casualty list - back on the front line. The Communist Viet Cong today abandoning the siege of Tuy An - on the South China Sea.

Their sudden withdrawal leaving Viet Nam without a single major battle - for the first time in ten days.

MESSAGE

A holiday message from President Johnson --  
beamed today to American forces throughout the world.  
Especially to our ~~fighting~~ fighting men in Viet Nam - where  
it is already Thanksgiving.

The President telling the American troops -  
that "today we do not march in support of your unfinished  
task. We carry no placards to bolster your cause. We  
sign no petitions to show you our unity. But we do much  
more."

^ "Today" - ~~we~~ he went on "we raise our voice  
in a single prayer of thanks for your courage and your  
dedication. And that is the most powerful voice of all."  
So said the President.

MOTT

Twenty-seven year old Newcomb Mott of Sheffield, Massachusetts - sentenced today to eighteen months in a Soviet labor camp, For slipping into Russia from Norway last September - up near the Arctic Circle. A regional judge at Murmansk - rejecting Mott's claim that he was "hot, tired and lost" - when he crossed the border.

As for Mott himself - he's said to have wept at the verdict -- calling it 'unjust'. The U S State Department - in complete agreement. Condemning the stiff sentence - as extreme and harsh. Warning that if allowed to stand - it could seriously affect relations - "between the Soviet and American people."

## PRINCESS

*Britain's Princess Margaret bade farewell to America today - at New York's Kennedy airport, before a flight to Bermuda - for a brief respite from royal duty.*

*The Princess today strolling down the line of reporters and photographers - who covered her American tour, shaking hands with each one, remarking that she and Lord Snowdon "have seldom if ever experienced such a wonderful three weeks". "And, we hope" - said ~~he~~ she - that "we can come back again soon."*

*Any time, Ma'am - any time.*



## RHODESIA

*A two-day old general strike in Rhodesia - only partially effective, collapsing today in dismal failure.*

*Black Africans returning to their jobs by the thousands - under pressure of warnings to "work or be fired." Also a temporary halt to the series of violent demonstrations - that have rocked the industrial city of Bulawayo in recent days.*

*Be that as it may - here is a portent of things to come - from the capital city of Salisbury, where the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia has ordered drastic credit restrictions, in an effort to conserve money - in the face of world-wide economic sanctions against Rhodesia.*

## KUWAIT

*Sheik Abdullah Al-Salim Al-Sabah - ruler of the oil rich sheikdom of Kuwait - dead today at the age of seventy. Radio Kuwait reporting the cause of death - as "heart failure."*

*Sheik Al Sabah - one of the world's richest men, a billionaire - at least. Yet a man - of simple tastes, who used his vast wealth to build roads, hospitals and schools. Also one of the biggest desalinization plants in the world - to provide his people with pure water from the Persian Gulf. A Moslem - he could have had four wives - but had only one at death.*

*His younger brother, the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah - immediately proclaimed the new ruler of Kuwait.*

## SWEDEN

*If you thought that northeast power failure we had was something - get a load of this. The power failure to end all power failures - reported today from the port city of Luleaa in northern Sweden.*

*The mishap occurring when an engineer pulled the wrong switch - in the main transmission line from a major power plant. Reversing the flow of electricity - in two phases - of the city's three phase alternating current system.*

*Electric motors throughout the city - suddenly thrown into reverse. Exhaust fans blowing in - instead of out. Pumps at filling stations drawing gasoline out of cars - instead of putting it in. Projectors at a movie house - rolling film backward with hilarious results. Everything in reverse - until the error was corrected.*

*Swedish power officials ~~is~~ saying - "Why - why this was one of those things that just couldn't happen", - but did.*

CHINA

*From the official new China news agency in Peking -- a report that three Indian soldiers were killed today, ~~When~~ they allegedly attacked a civilian <sup>outpost</sup> ~~outpost~~ -- claiming that they fired back only in self-defense.*

*This - said Red China - one of "repeated provocations by Indian troops - on Tibetan soil. Provocations that "have aroused the grave attention - of Chinese authorities."*



CALIFORNIA

Something of a surprise -- from the University of California at Berkeley; Scene of all those campus demonstrations last year -- on the alleged issue of free speech.

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An election there today - to select three members of an important campus rules committee. Assured by college authorities of a prominent role - in the future ~~that~~ drafting of campus political regulations.

Here's the surprise. The leading vote-getter -- twenty-one year old Bettina Aptheker, A co-ed who admitted only two weeks ago - that she was a registered member of the Communist party - and had been for four years.

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Her election blamed in part - on the light turnout. Of twenty-seven thousand students on campus - less than six thousand bothered to vote.

## STATISTICS

*Here in America - we seem to have statistics on most everything these days. The latest - a national litter index, published today in New York by an organization known as - Keep America Beautiful, Incorporated.*

*The Litter Index disclosing that the nation's litterbugs - have left six percent more trash along the nation's highways this year - than they did last year. "For the simple reason" - says Keep America Beautiful Inc. "that each year we have more people, more cars, more drivers," and - more thoughtless people.*

*By the way - the cost of cleaning up all that trash - is estimated at more than twenty-five million dollars a year. Another reason - Warren - why every litter bit hurts.*

JAKARTA

I mentioned yesterday a story of vigilante justice = in the jungles of Indonesia. Farmers in Central Java - hunting down Communists - often killing them on the spot, until the Indonesian Army - finally told them to cut it out.

At any rate - another tale today from Jakarta - perhaps illustrating the cause of the army's concern. A group of villagers sighting a fugitive from justice -- in the Javanese jungle <sup>and</sup> immediately taking up the chase - with cries of "Communist - Communist".

The panic-stricken fugitive shouting back over his shoulder -- I'm not a Communist - I'm just a thief.

P. S. They let him go.